RCI-11 - Government Lead by Example with Mandatory Efficiency Targets

Benefit/Cost of Reducing CO_2e:

Arizona: 3 MMt between 2007-2020; 0.2% of 2020 emissions; $-4/ton
New Mexico: 0.9 MMt between 2007-2020; 0.2% of 2020 emissions; $-20/ton
Colorado: Low reduction potential; Low cost
Montana: 1.7 MMt between 2007-2020; 0.6% of 2020 emissions; $-5/ton
Oregon: 0.117 MMt between 2007-2025; 0.1% of 2025 emissions; N/A on cost
N. Carolina: 7 MMt between 2007-2020; 0.5% of 2020 emissions; $-14/ton

Assessment: High Priority. Bin A. 19 out of 22 votes.

While the direct GHG emissions reduction potential of this option is modest due to the small emissions footprint of State facilities relative to that of Utah as a whole, efficiency improvements can be highly cost-effective and there is value in the State showing leadership on efficiency.

Governor Huntsman has called for a 20 percent increase in energy efficiency in Utah by 2015. On March 17, 2006, House Bill 80 was enacted, amending and updating state energy efficiency policy. Under this bill, the Division of Facilities Construction and Management is required to administer the State Building Energy Efficiency Program. The Division is responsible for developing guidelines and procedures for energy efficiency in state facilities, and assisting state agencies, commissions, divisions, boards, departments, and institutions of higher education in implementing these procedures into their facilities.

Additionally, the Division is charged with developing incentives that promote energy conservation and the reduction of energy costs in state buildings, procuring energy efficient products when practicable, analyzing state agencies' energy consumption, establishing an advisory group to assist with the development and implementation of the State Building Energy Efficiency program, and providing a yearly energy savings report, including long-term strategies and goals, to both the governor and the legislature.

The State Building Board is required to work in conjunction with the Division to establish design criteria, standards, and procedures for the planning, design, and construction of new state buildings and improvements to existing state facilities. Among other outcomes of a proposed building project, life-cycle costing of the most prudent cost of owning and operating the facility, in addition to other analyses, must address the expected energy efficiency of a given facility.

Each state entity must develop a program to manage energy efficiency and cost conservation and to appoint a staff member to coordinate the energy efficiency program. Agencies may enter into an energy savings agreement for a term of up to 20 years.[18]

[18] See http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive_Code=UT09R&state=UT&CurrentPageID=1&RE=1&EE=1